

Message Text

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PAGE 01 CARACA 08475 302006Z

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ACTION ARA-20

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SCI-06 EB-11 AGR-20 SWF-02 CIAE-00

INR-11 NSAE-00 RSC-01 DODE-00 NASA-04 AID-20 COME-00

DRC-01 /097 W

----- 114019

R 292110Z AUG 74

FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5665

UNCLAS CARACAS 8475

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAGR, VE

SUBJ: VENEZUELAN GOVERNMENT REQUEST FOR ERTS SURVEY WORK

1. IN MORNING OF AUGUST 28, MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE AND LIVESTOCK LUIS OROPEZA CONTACTED EMBASSY AND REQUESTED THE USE, AS SOON AS POSSIBLE, OF "U.S. SATELLITE" TO SURVEY CURRENT CROP CONDITIONS IN VENEZUELA. ON INFORMATION FURNISHED BY WASHINGTON, DCM AND AGRICULTURAL ATTACHE MET WITH MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE EVENING OF AUGUST 28 TO EXPLAIN ERTS SYSTEM AND GAIN A CLEARER UNDERSTANDING OF AGRICULTURE MINISTER'S THINKING OF SUBJECT.

2. EMBASSY REPRESENTATIVES EXPLAINED, AS BEST POSSIBLE, CAPABILITIES AND LIMITATIONS OF ERTS-A AND MINISTER CHANGED HIS REQUEST FROM IMMEDIATE ONE-TIME SURVEY TO REQUEST FOR FUTURE CONTINUAL SURVEY OF CROP CONDITIONS OVER A LARGE AREA OF COUNTRY. (AREA TO BE SURVEYED WOULD BE FROM COLOMBIA/VENEZUELA BORDER ON WEST TO ATLANTIC OCEAN ON EAST, FROM ORINOCO RIVER ON SOUTH TO CARIBBEAN SEA ON NORTH. MAXIMUM LATITUDES AND LONGITUDES ARE:
WEST TO EAST- 7321 W TO 5948 W
SOUTH TO NORTH - 0042 N TO 1212 N)

3. DCM INFORMED MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE THAT VENEZUELAN PUBLIC WORKS MINISTRY HAD IN PAST HAD ARRANGEMENT WITH NASA
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PAGE 02 CARACA 08475 302006Z

FOR USE OF ERTS DATA. (AGRICULTURE MINISTER IS CHECKING INTO

THIS MATTER LOCALLY).

4. IN VIEW OF AGRICULTURE MINISTER CHANGED REQUEST POST
NEEDS ANSWERS TO FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:

A) IS A LONG-TERM PROJECT TO SURVEY CRO CONDITONS
POSSIBLE?

B) IF SO, CAN "DATA" (BOTH PAST AND FUTURE) BE FURNISHED
WHIH WOULD ALLOW ACTUAL PERIODIC MEASUREMENT OF LOCAL CROP
CONDITIONS?

C) IN WHAT FORM WOULD THE DATA BE FURNISHED?

D) WHAT WAS PAST ARRANGEMENT BETWEEN NASA AND PUBLIC
WORKS?

1) WHAT DATA WAS FURNISHED

2) CAN ANY OF THIS DATA BE UTILIZED TO MEET THIS
CURRENT REQUEST

3) WHO WAS VENEZUELAN CONTACT

E) IN VIEW OF ACT AGRICULTURAL MINISTRY PRESENTLY
DOESNOT HAVE TECHNICAL CAPABILITY TO INTERPRET ERTS DATA:

1) CAN NASA PROVIDE TRAINING PERSONNEL? (GOVERNMENT OF
VENEZUELA WOULD PAY ALL COSTS)

2) IF YES, WHAT WOULD BE TIME FRAM; BEST LOCATION FOR
TRAINING(GOVERNMENT OF VENEZUELA PREFERS IN VENEZUELA);
AND ESTIMATED COST?

F) WHO SHOULD WE CONACT IN FUTURE OF THIS? (EMBASSY
APPRECIATES PROMPT RESPONSE PROVIDED BY C. CLENDENEN/FAS/
USDA TO OUR INITIAL REQUEST FOR INFORMATION).

5. ANY ADITONAL INFORMATION OR GUIDANCE WASHINGTON
CAN PROVIDE ON THIS MATTER WOULD BE WELCOMED.
MCCLINTOCK

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